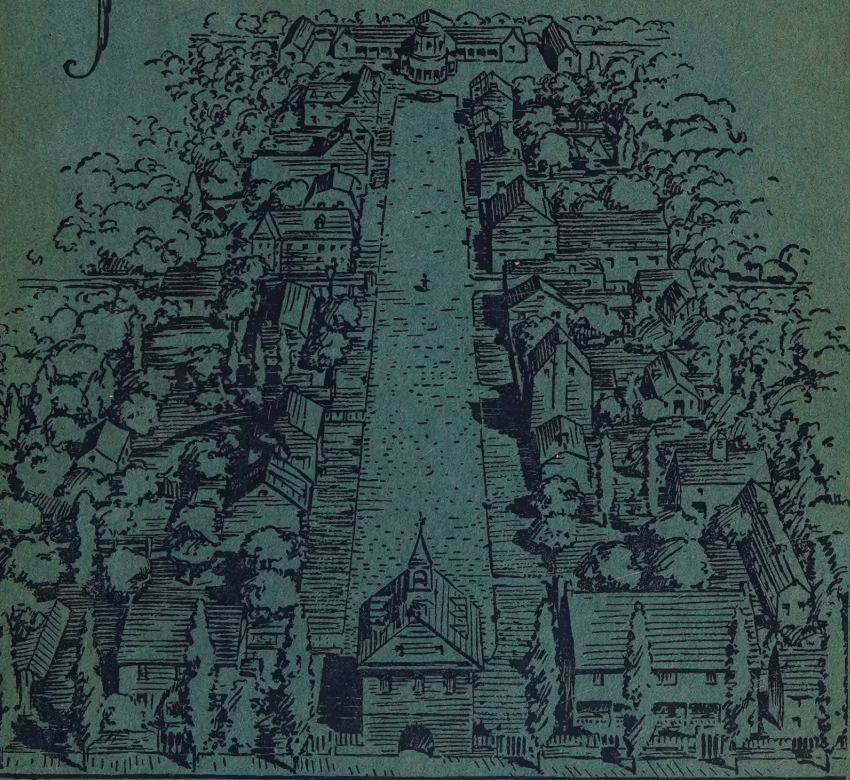


# The Book of the Street

Lowrie and Ludlum



*"High Street" .. Old PHILADELPHIA .. 1776.*



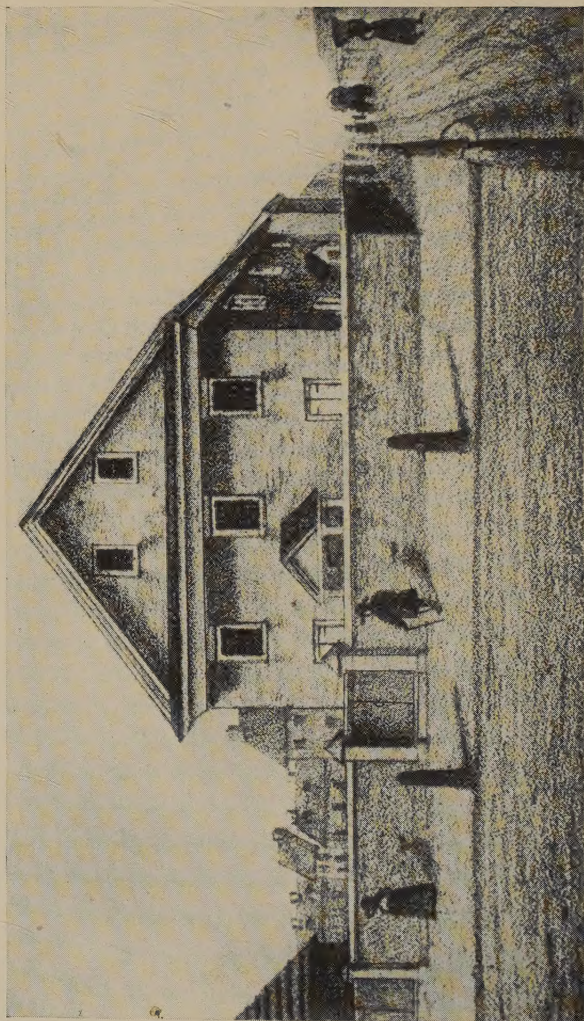
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For Dorothy -  
from Sister Mary

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June 1926.







FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE

# THE SESQUI-CENTENNIAL HIGH STREET

BY  
SARAH D. LOWRIE  
AND  
MABEL STEWART LUDLUM



PRESS OF  
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1926

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## PART I





## FOREWORD

SARAH D. LOWRIE

THE STREET, as it is called familiarly, came to be built by the Women's Committee of the Sesqui-Centennial for a variety of reasons, but the chief one is all that needs telling here. It came about because everyone was interested in the idea, and from the Mayor of Philadelphia who, as chairman of the Sesqui-Centennial Committee was the first to be consulted, to the Philadelphia Chapter of Architects whose advice was sought as to the possibility of making a replica look like a reality, every man of them, and all the women whose responsibility it would eventually be to carry out the plan, urged Mrs. Martin to initiate it with their blessing and with all the help that in their several ways they were capable of giving.

As chairman of the Women's Committee and a member of the Executive Committee of the Sesqui Committee, Mrs. J. Willis Martin was in a position to utilize all the coöperation that came her way, and from first to last as regards the Street a great deal has come her way. First a grant of \$200,000 from the Sesqui Committee for making an exterior replica of a block of the High Street of the eighteenth century, and what was almost as important a free hand in the administration of that trust. The plans of course had to be approved and the estimates and contracts likewise, and all the minutia of accounting, approval, fixing of the site for the buildings and consultation as to provisions for maintenance, etc., etc., came under the advisory jurisdiction of the appointed Sesqui-Centennial authorities, but the actual realization of the idea, from the Town Hall to the Market Place, and the manner of its carrying out down to the last detail was first, last and always the business of the Women's Committee. The result in coöperation with the architects is their final choice of what should make the outward picture. And in coöperation with the national and state organizations they have given what is also the modern interpretation of the inward meaning of this picture.

For the Street is not merely a picture of what has been, it is a symbol of what is. In it are the essentials of the exterior and the interior of an American home. The twentieth century home is bound to be effected by the community just as the community is bound to effect the home. Stone walls do not a prison make; neither do they make a home.

Interests shared in common make a home and they must be interests from the outside in, as well as from the inside out. This is no truer of today than it was of a century and a half ago in America, and all the essentials of a home existed then and on the High Street of Washington's, Franklin's and Jefferson's day. We cannot improve upon those essentials, we can only amplify them and honor the original valuations of them, by making the most of the ideals that we owe to the first makers of homes in this country.

The exteriors of the houses, and in most cases the interiors, are pictures of a historic past, but they are also settings for a very real present. For in every case the hostess organizations occupying these buildings—that no longer exist in reality—are the modern instances of the original ideas of the founders of the nation and mark the evolution of that idea to serve the present needs of the world. The Meeting House is still a place of meditation and prayer, but it is also a medium for the exchange of thought and of fellowship for all Christians of any creed and of no spoken creed. The Girard Counting House is still a philanthropic centre, but philanthropy has changed from a relationship of benevolent patronage to an ideal of mutual helpfulness and shared knowledge.

The school house is still the centre of education but the educators have a new relationship to one another and the children. The importance of understanding a child is as great as that a child should understand his teacher. Labor, business, politics, amusements, the embellishments of life, the science

of living—all these belonged to the past and are of the present and in each case the relationship between that past and this present has been touched upon objectively in the Street. You may pass from Washington's House as it was, to the Shippen House as it might be today, and you note the change and accept the verdict of your own common sense.

The point is, we do not have to stand still in order to be loyal to a great past, but in certain essentials we have to carry out the ideals of that past or we shall lose our heritage. And if the Street fulfills its purpose, it will mark those essentials so inescapably that even a child will grasp what men fought for at Bunker Hill, and what they lived through at Valley Forge to hand down to their children.

The women of the first Centennial in 1876 under the leadership of a great woman, Mrs. Gillespie, put their patriotism and their prophetic ardor into the building of a Woman's Museum of art and industry, philanthropy and education. Under the leadership of a great citizen and as ardent a patriot the women of today have emphasized the increasing scope of their interests and of their responsibilities, interests which no one building can house and responsibilities which they must share with men.

The Street is their idea, but the realization of that idea is the work of men as well as of women, and the life which it symbolizes is the opportunity for service common to us all.

## A NOTE

No original research has been spent upon these notes. They are compiled from Watson's *Annals*, Joseph Jackson's *Market Street*, Horace Mather Lippincott's *Early Philadelphia* and much miscellaneous reading. When accounts differed I took the one I liked the best. Those who really know Philadelphia will find nothing new but I hope that among the many who meet us for the first time there will be some who, being introduced by these few pages, will be interested to know us better. They have been written with love for our city, with welcome for our visitors and with appreciation of the hard work and good humour of THE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE.

May, 1926.

MABEL STEWART LUDLUM.



# HISTORY OF THE STREET

MABEL STEWART LUDLUM

ALL American visitors at the Sesqui-Centennial Celebration will surely be interested in that period of our country's history which we commemorate. This interest will be common alike to those of us who became Americans but yesterday and those of us whose ancestors actually helped in composing the Document itself, or who signed it, or who came here from all parts of the Colonies to testify to their belief in its necessity, or those, no less enthusiastic, who stayed at home, gravely pondering the cost of such a Declaration. Theirs, indeed, was the decision that sent the delegates to Philadelphia here to bring to a focus the sentiment deeply felt from Atlantic seaport towns to forest frontiers in the far West of Ohio and Kentucky. And here it was that Benjamin Franklin made his immortal little joke that was so typical in its mixture of fun and seriousness. "And now," he said as he signed with a flourish, "we must all hang together—or assuredly we shall hang separately." And after that The Bell was rung, and the couriers started off with the news before the tumult and the shouting had died down, and a nation was conceived in liberty.

At that time Philadelphia was nearly a hundred years old but had not begun to feel her age. The

first born was ninety-six years old and it was four years later that Franklin replied to the Frenchman who inquired concerning the longevity of the natives of America: "Sir, that I cannot tell you until Edward Drinker dies." Edward thoughtfully set the record at one hundred and two years of health and prosperity.

They lived long and well in William Penn's "little green town" but there were times when we nearly lost the green for the City Council ordered cut down the beautiful button-woods and willows that shaded our streets "to guard against stagnant air." Francis Hopkinson saved them by argument and eloquence and the order was revoked. After this they were endangered from another source. Observant folk may notice on some of our houses iron plates of varying designs. One of them bears four clasped hands—the insignia of the first fire insurance company, but it refused to insure a house with a tree near it. Quickly there sprang into existence a rival company which advertised a strong partiality for trees and its plate carried a graceful tree design. So they were saved again.

The principal street of the town was the High Street, now called Market Street. It was the first to be paved, the money for it raised by a lottery. It was the first to be cleaned by municipal order, the work being done by convicts, and it was the first in the country to be lighted by permanent street lamps at regular intervals. These improvements were the suggestion of the indispensable Benjamin Franklin. The lighting was the hardest to accom-

plish as it was considered an extravagance, but it proved a fruitful advertisement for the town. All of this civic progress was concentrated in the thickly populated part of the Street, from the Delaware River to Fourth Street. Beyond Fourth was country road to Eighth and from there to the picturesque banks of the Schuylkill was a charming path through the forest, a favorite walk of about a mile and a half.

In the beginning High Street was in what real estate dealers call the most desirable residential section. In those days artisans, merchants, school teachers, lawyers, doctors, had their business and their homes under one roof so there was not the uniformity of façade for which the city later became famous—red brick, white marble and green shutters. There was as much variety of building as of occupation. In those eight squares were not only such beautiful houses set in gardens as those built by Morris and Galloway, there were also three blacksmith shops, five hotels or taverns of the better class, a duck pond large enough to have a boat or two on it, two public gardens with summer houses where light refreshments were sold, such as cheese cake, mead and balm beer. Not long before '76 appeared the first store in the town to have bulging or bulk windows. One was a hardware store which also sold buttons. The other sold all kinds of fancy drygoods, it advertised as "kept in the true Bond Street Style." The window was decorated with yards and yards of materials in festoons and fancy designs and was *lighted after dark*—which caused

it to be "all the stare" and brought whole families from far and wide to gaze. Inside was no less grand for the salesman came from London and had most elegant manners, handing even the change wrapped in paper, and always with a sweeping bow.

## THE SESQUI-CENTENNIAL HIGH STREET

Now we are ready to slip away from the life of 1926 into the spirit of High Street of one hundred and fifty years ago. It is not a literal reproduction of any square of that street, only the President's House and Robert Morris's were actually in the relation to each other that we see here. But each house is a reproduction of that one whose designation it bears, which stood on or very near High Street when Philadelphia was a hundred years young.

### THE GREAT TOWN HALL

We enter The Street by the Town Hall and County Court House, built in 1709 in the very centre of High Street at the intersection of Second. At the time of its erection it "crowned an eminence," for the land rose almost abruptly from the river banks. The citizens gazed upon its small dignified aloofness with great pride during the hundred and twenty-eight years that it filled the centre of their main street, for the building was not taken down until 1837. All distances were measured from that point which in '76 was considered the centre of the city. For some years the gaol was

right in front of it, and the inevitable pillory and stocks and whipping post. On market days, twice a week, the populace were regaled by the parade of criminals who were led in chains around the space between the Court House and the Market before being shut up in the gaol or more publicly punished. This was one of the sights of the town and regarded with the same lightheartedness with which we now, when in London, go to St. James' Palace to see the changing of the guard. The first legal sentence of death was in 1720 and it was upon a man and wife for making counterfeit money.

Under the Hall, literally on the ground floor, were the Butchers' Stalls. It was some years before the business of slaughtering the animals as well as selling the meat outgrew the accommodation and the more progressive citizens succeeded in turning them out. They were followed by a variety of shops which gradually became converted into second hand junk shops, to this day dear to the heart of every born Philadelphian. At the time of the Revolution auction sales of everything from real estate to rummage were held three times a week on this ground floor. There were three official auction enterprises in the city. They were not taxed in colonial days but after the war they were, and a harsh ruling drove them outside the city limits, yet it was such a profitable business that patrons were given free transportation. From the graceful balcony, for nearly a hundred years, the newly appointed Governors made their inaugural speeches, important announcements were read, and the proclamations of

the deaths and accessions of our monarchs. It was here in 1739 that the famous preacher Whitefield spoke and his voice was plainly heard in Camden just a mile away.

#### THE INDIAN QUEEN HOTEL

At different periods of our early history there were two hotels, also called Inns or Taverns, of this name and the records are not very clear as to which is which, however, the one on our Street next to the Town Hall is not architecturally the latest one. There was one which stood at the corner of Fourth and High, in 1757. In the large stables race horses were kept from 1760 until the War. Philadelphia was famed for horses and in those years when you *said* horses you *thought* races. The races were run on Race Street, of course, which indeed obligingly changed its name from Sassafrass for the purpose. Among other notables, foreign and native, Thomas Jefferson often stopped here and in 1785 from this door the daily stage to New York started every morning at four o'clock. The Indian Queen was the headquarters of our First City Troop in the early years of the nineteenth century. The earliest tavern licences, which every house had to have that took a paying guest, were granted exclusively "to widows and decrepit men of good character." Such places were intended primarily to serve meals to strangers and "to workmen who were not house-keepers" but this opportunity for service was much abused and in 1744 one-tenth of the houses of the

town were listed as "tippling places." This was a case where public sentiment came to the rescue and in a few years that scandal was no more.

#### THE BAKE-SHOP

Adjoining the garden of the Indian Queen is a very important little house, a shop where were sold gingerbread cookies baked in lively patterns of men and beasts, the moulds brought from London, all very novel to Philadelphians in the middle of the eighteenth century. The baker was a German by birth but with the American spirit if ever man was. He had been a soldier in many wars, a sailor in many voyages, he had seen most of the countries of the world when he arrived here and resolved to settle down as a neighbor of Franklin in Letitia Court, just off High Street. Gingerbread was his hobby, but all kinds of good bread became his profession. He had such integrity of character and such charm and kindliness of manner, with so much resourcefulness and good sense that he was soon made a member of important committees. At the beginning of the war there was a movement to procure arms and ammunition by private subscription but nobody at the meeting seemed eager to start the list, until Christopher Ludwig was heard to say "Put the gingerbrodt maker down for £200." He was appointed by Congress Baker General to the American Army and had many conferences with Washington and the other generals, indeed Washington held him in high regard and often invited him to dinner. The flour was furnished but he gave

the baking of the bread to the Army and certainly gained not a cent from his war job, and at the close of the war he was publicly thanked. He was personally responsible for many desertions from the Hessians for he would disguise himself as one of them and slip into their camps and at the appropriate time get in his propaganda. These risky adventures were his great delight. He made a large fortune in real estate, most of which, as he had no children, he bequeathed to the city for the education of poor children. It is now used as a fund for special lectures in our schools.

#### THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Next to the Bakery stands a narrow three-story house of six small rooms. It was built in 1773 for a private family. Ten years later the Government of the United States leased it for our first Office of Foreign Affairs and here the Hon. Robert R. Livingstone with the assistance of two under-secretaries, two clerks and an interpreter, transacted our delicate business with the countries over-seas and kept the records of our diplomatic beginnings in a small wooden chest.

#### THE SHIPPEN HOUSE

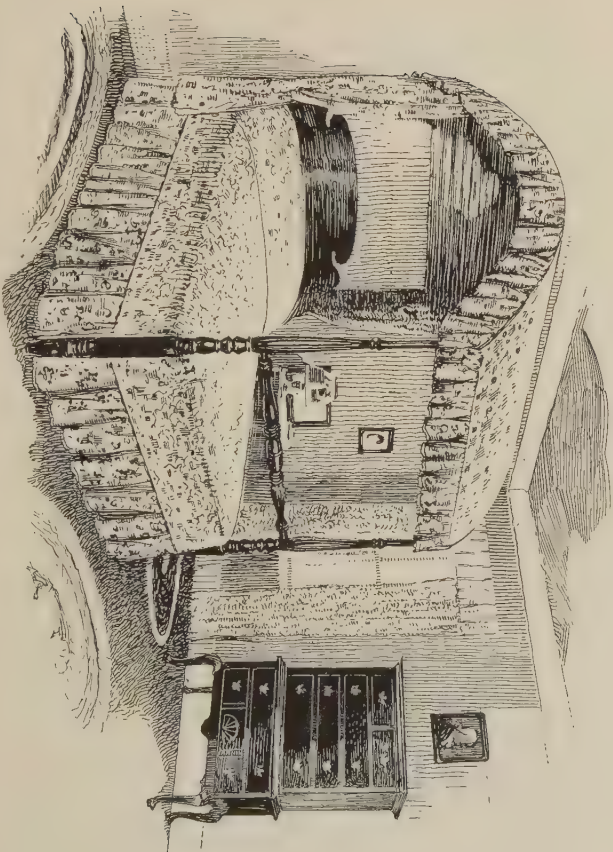
Philadelphia has always supported a great many doctors to the square foot, which may not be a good advertisement for our air and water but it is for our Medical Schools and we had the honour to found the first in the country. Dr. William Shippen, Jr., the son of a doctor and the grand-son of our



FOREIGN OFFICE AND THE LUDWIG BAKE SHOP

first Mayor, was the first Professor of Medicine and with Dr. John Morgan made the faculty that instructed and graduated the first class of ten medical students who finished their three years course in June, 1768. Seventy years before that event this house was built. It was called The Great House. The Shippen who built it was noted for having "the biggest person, the biggest coach and the biggest house," and the house had a wonderful garden "abounding in tulips, carnations, roses and lilies, with a summer-house in the middle of it." Old Doctor Shippen, proud of his son just returned from his schooling in Edinburgh University, followed by further study in France, encouraged him in every way and the young doctor advertized "Dr. William Shippen's anatomical lectures will begin to-morrow evening at his father's house. Tickets for the course are five pistoles each. Gentlemen who incline to see the subject prepared for the lecture and to learn the art of dissecting, injecting etc., are to pay five pistoles additional." He had a hard time getting his "subjects" and more than once the house was mobbed. At first he could get only the bodies of criminals, and there were so few of them! Then he was given permission to take suicides, and he wisely published the permission. When the beautiful garden was dug up in the course of the city building it was found to be a thickly populated grave yard. This Doctor Shippen was Director General of all Military Hospitals during the war. He was the first person in this city to carry an

Courtesy of *Good Housekeeping Magazine*  
BED-ROOM IN THE WILLIAM SHIPPEN HOUSE



umbrella or to wear a rain coat, both made of oiled silk, and for a long time only doctors went about so sensibly protected.

#### THE JEFFERSON (GRÄFF) HOUSE

Not cosily tucked between neighbors, as we see it here, but far away on the outskirts of the town, the very last dwelling house to the westward, stood the "new three-story brick house, on the corner of Seventh and High Street." For twenty years afterwards it stood almost alone out there, no real estate boom disturbed its garden. It was owned and sturdily built by a young German bricklayer, whose son was to become the engineer of the Fairmount Water Works. It was leased by Mrs. Clymer, the mother of the Signer and from her, for thirty-five shillings a week, Thomas Jefferson rented the corner sitting room and the bed room back of it, furnished, on the second floor. There were many meetings of the Committee of Five when Franklin, Adams, Livingstone and Sherman joined the Virginian and their combined wisdom produced one of the world's great documents. We don't know why Jefferson gave up his customary room in the conveniently located Indian Queen, nor why he did not stop on this occasion, as he sometimes did, with his cousin Randolph the noted cabinet maker, but we have his own word for it that in this house and no other he wrote what he calls "the genuine effusion of the soul of our country," the Declaration of Independence.

## THE MORRIS HOUSE

That this house of Joseph Galloway's, the distinguished Tory, should be called the Morris House, as it always is in any chronicle of the period, is in itself a testimony to the outstanding personal characteristics of Robert Morris who did not build it, did not own it very long, and actually lived in it for less than four years. His ideas were big like his stature and his undertakings corresponded in size. He voted against the Declaration of Independence because, he wrote, "it will neither promote the interest nor redound to the credit of America." Nevertheless just one month later he signed it, saying, "I think the individual who declines the service of his country because its councils are not conformable to his ideas makes but a bad subject; a good one will follow if he cannot lead." Time and again he saved our financial situation during the war and in 1781 he was unanimously elected by Congress to be Superintendent of Finance for the whole country "because of his success as a merchant, his ardour in the cause of American Liberty, his firmness of character, fertility of mental resources, and profound knowledge of pecuniary operations." He was our first Senator from Pennsylvania under the Constitution, and in declining Washington's invitation to be Secretary of the Treasury suggested Alexander Hamilton. His financial failure, which was on as great a scale as his success, is a dramatic story and its climax must forever be a disgrace to our Government. Through the gross dishonesty of

his partner and an overextended credit Morris failed for millions of dollars and by the illogical "justice" of those days he was confined in the debtors' prison out in the fields at Tenth and Walnut. Here he remained for three and a half years and the country which he had been the means of saving never did a thing to show that he was remembered.

There is a description by the Prince de Broglie of an afternoon call in this house. He described the house as "well furnished and very neat. The doors and tables are of superb mahogany and polished. The locks and hinges are of brass, curiously bright . . . in fact everything appeared charming to me. I partook of most excellent tea, and I should be even now still drinking it, I believe, if the ambassador had not charitably notified me at the twelfth cup that I must put my spoon across it when I wished to finish with this sort of warm water. He said to me, 'It is almost as ill-bred to refuse a cup of tea when it is offered to you as it would be indiscreet for the mistress of the house to propose a fresh one when the ceremony of the spoon has notified her that you no longer wish to partake of it.' "

#### THE PRESIDENTS' HOUSE

When the Seat of Government, as it was statelily called, removed from New York to Philadelphia, there was some talk of building a suitable Presidential Mansion but this was given up for lack of time and also because Robert Morris as usual rescued the situation. He moved out of his house, which was

Courtesy of B. Okie

SKETCH OF "THE WASHINGTON HOUSE"





the largest and handsomest in town, and Washington paid \$3000 a year rent for it, unfurnished, and lived there for seven years. Morris moved into the Galloway House, ever since known as the Morris House. When at the end of his second term Washington retired to Mount Vernon, John Adams entered it as President and lived there until 1800 when Washington officially became the Capital. So for ten years the White House was in Philadelphia, and in a letter from Washington to his private secretary we have a description of it. It is here somewhat abridged:

“It is the best single house in the city, yet without additions it is inadequate to the commodious accommodation of my family. The first floor contains only two public rooms (reception rooms we would call them) except one for the upper servants. The second floor will have two (drawing) rooms and the back rooms will be sufficient for Mrs. Washington and the children and their maids, besides affording her a small place for a private study and dressing room.” Then we learn that the third story had four good rooms and the garret had four rooms which would do for the butler and his wife, his valet, William, “and such servants as it may be better not to place in the proposed additions to the back building. There is a room over the stable which may serve the coachman and postillions and there is a smoke house which may be more valuable for the use of the servants than for the smoking of meats. The addition is to provide a servants’ hall and rooms for servants. There are good stables but

for twelve horses only, and a coach house which will hold all my carriages."

In this house every two weeks the formal *Levee* was held in the dining room from which all obtrusive furniture was removed for the occasion. The room was thirty feet long and the President stood at the far end, facing the door, his back to the fire place. He always wore black velvet, yellow gloves, handsome knee and shoe buckles, and a dress sword. His hair was powdered and gathered in a black silk bag and he carried a three cornered hat trimmed with a black cockade and a feather edging. The door was opened exactly at three o'clock and closed exactly at quarter past. Visitors were announced at the door, bowed to the President but never shook hands with him, and arranged themselves in a silent circle around the room. When the door was closed Washington began with the gentleman at his right and moved around the circle calling each one by name and chatting affably a few minutes with each. Those who had been spoken with then felt free to speak in low tones with each other. When the President had arrived at the fireplace again his visitors came up one by one, bowed, and departed. The President and Mrs. Washington were "at home" every Friday evening in the upstairs drawing-rooms and these parties seem to have been very much like our modern ones of the same name except possibly not so crowded. To be brought to this party was to the Republican *débutante* equivalent to the Presentation at Court of her European cousin. At four o'clock every Thursday the Washingtons

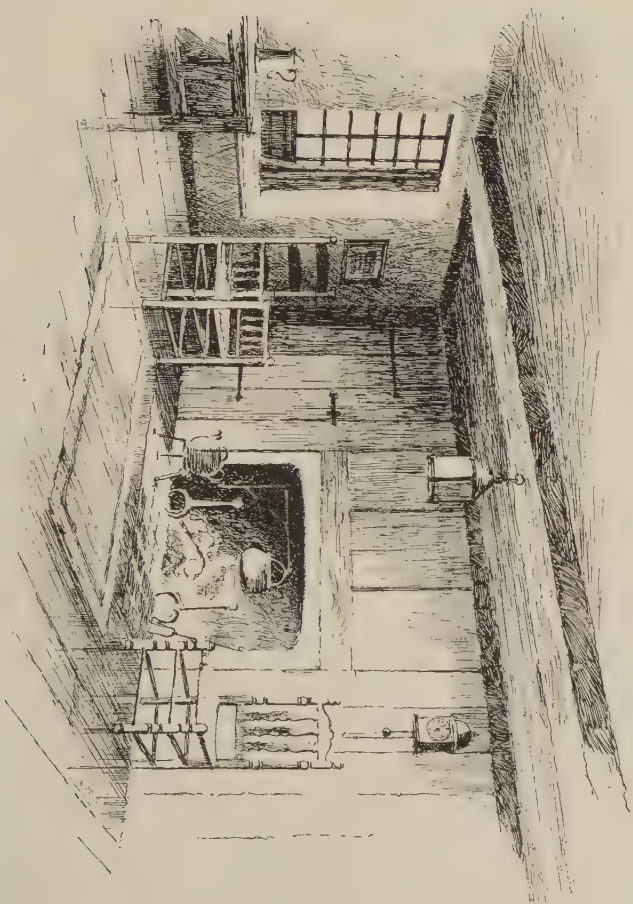
gave a formal dinner party, at which the President asked the blessing before the company were seated, unless there was a clergyman among the guests. Washington ate only one course, this rule was never varied, and he drank but one glass of wine during dinner and one afterwards. There is a pretty picture observed at the front of this house which I quote, slightly condensed, from Mr. Watson's reminiscences of his boyhood. He had been sent on an errand and told to hurry back but seeing the splendid coach with six bay horses and the liveried postillions and outrider at the President's door he lingered a few moments and was rewarded by the sight of the Great Man in his black velvet full dress, and "Lady Washington" also in festive attire, and a young lady. "Presenting her his hand he led her down to the coach with that ease and grace peculiar to him in everything and with the attentive assiduity of an ardent youthful lover; having also handed in the young lady, and the door clapped to, Fritz, the coachman, gave a rustling flourish with his whip, which produced a plunging motion in the leading horses, reined in by the postillions, and striking flakes of fire between their hoofs and the pebbles, crack went the whip, 'round went the wheels and they were off as though High Street were mad."

#### THE PRESIDENTIAL STABLE

The stable which Washington called good, "though it had room for only twelve horses" is partially reproduced on our High Street but the inside has been converted into a theatre, appropri-

ately enough, for Washington himself was a great patron of plays. The first professional production in the city was the tragedy of Cato, given in a store, in 1749. The undertaking was disapproved by the Society of Friends and soon collapsed. Five years later a company came from London and, upon promising good behavior and moral performances, were licensed. The same store was their theatre and their opening plays were "The Fair Penitent" and "Miss in her Teens." But in spite of "a numerous and polite audience" the noes had it and not for five years more was there another play. Then the same company returned and this time to their own theatre which they had built outside the city limits on Society Hill, a beautiful suburb at about Third and South. At this effrontery great agitation took hold of the Quakers and the Presbyterians. Petitions fluttered from house to house; open letters bombarded editorial offices; tracts were printed and distributed freely; the Councils and the Magistrates were besought and then threatened, but all to no avail. The town was headed towards fire and brimstone and Wet Blankets couldn't save it. While Washington lived here three new theatres were built but the old Southwark, ugly and inconvenient though it was, remained a steady favorite. It was the first and until the nineteenth century the only theatre to maintain its own all-star company in repertoire. The stage was lighted by oil lamps without chimneys, the view of the stage was much obstructed by wooden posts at frequent intervals, but it had its President's Box suitably decorated and the audience was fre-

ROOM IN THE SLATE ROOF HOUSE





quently delighted to see him in it, shown to it as he always was by a lackey carrying a lighted candelabrum, at which sight the audience rose and remained standing until the President's party were seated.

#### THE SLATE-ROOF HOUSE

Built in the seventeenth century but a year or two later than the first brick house this much grander one had the distinction of the first slate roof. On his second visit Penn lived here, by courtesy of its owner Samuel Carpenter, and here was born his son John, called the American. It was called "the Castle" by the citizens and even a foreigner seeing it among its humble neighbors of our earliest days described it as "laid out in the style of a fortification with abundance of angles, both salient and re-entering, its wings projecting in the manner of bastions. It has a spacious yard and a double row of venerable and lofty pines." It had various owners, among them Trent the founder of Trenton, but saw its best days during several generations of the Norris family.

#### THE JERSEY MARKET

No, the bell in front of the Market House was not to be rung in case of fire—only in case of food. Every time a boat load of garden truck arrived at the Wharf the bell was rung. Tuesday and Friday were the market days and then the sheds of hospitable taverns were filled with the farmers' waggons and the market stalls made a gay display. Even in winter there were some green vegetables for there were French farmer *émigrés* in the neighborhood who

knew how to grow much in little under precious glass. To France and to the West Indies we owe most of our fruit and vegetables. At the time of the Revolution there were almost as many varieties as we have today and a really surprising quantity was grown here. It was not until after the war that ice houses became common and that M. Segur taught us how to make ice cream, in which we still excel. Anybody who could raise or import anything good to eat found ready sale for it in Philadelphia whose citizens were early said to have made their god their belly. For eighty years, every May and November, a fair was held in this market that lasted three days. It was always noisy of course, but tolerable, until the population outgrew the limit of space and the decorum was no longer controlled by the Opening Proclamation which commanded the people in the King's name to keep the King's peace. Without any King there wasn't any peace and the fair having become a much dreaded nuisance to the solid citizens it was abolished in 1787.

#### STEPHEN GIRARD'S HOUSE AND OFFICE

It was in 1776 that the young French gentleman from Bordeaux arrived in Philadelphia commanding his own ship. Just a year later he married here and at the end of another year he took the oath of allegiance and fidelity and became an American citizen. For more than half a century he lived here, always looked upon as "a foreigner" by his neighbors not only because of his "Continental Sunday" but chiefly because of his temperament—



## The Stephen Girard House and Counting House

Courtesy of A. F. Kean



excessively reticent, never asking advice, though blind in one eye seeing through any sham, witty, and a trifle cynical, an easily misunderstood man. With this difficult temperament was coupled a disposition of great generosity toward any in distress, an ardent love of beauty, strong family affection. Above all he loved children, and then horses, dogs and birds. Every one of his fleet of ships was provided with dogs and birds, and he spent a little while every day teaching his own pet birds to sing by the aid of a "bird organ"—whatever that may have been—imported from France especially for the purpose.

All Americans know that the combined patriotism and financial sagacity of Girard preserved the credit of the United States Government during the War of 1812. There were other crises, too, when government and corporations and individuals turned to him and found one mighty to save. But he was not only ready with money. During the devastating yellow fever epidemic of 1793 when in three months one-sixth of the city's population died, Stephen Girard volunteered to take care of a hospital full of the plague stricken, where he tended to their needs as nurse and physician, at the same time organizing such a staff as could be bribed to help.

At his big farm in Passayunk he found almost daily recreation, and here he grew an immense quantity and variety of vegetables and fruits of very superior quality as well as animals for meat. He had two stalls in the market at Second and Pine where the surplus was sold, but he provisioned all

his ships, including the beef. Today's market gardens around Philadelphia owe not a little to the start they got from Girard's Experimental Farm.

Within this house near High Street were entertained with boundless hospitality all the distinguished Europeans who visited us, from Bourbon princes and Bonaparte ex-kings right through the long list of nearly half a century. It was considered a handsome house though "foreign." The hall and the dining room were floored with squares of black and white marble, all the other floors were narrow strips of hardwood, stained. In cold weather there were handsome Turkey carpets in all the rooms. The office also had its Turkey carpet, but the only furniture were the desks and chairs, Girard's of mahogany, the clerk's of walnut, the apprentices' of painted pine. There were three distinguishing features in this house. One was a tiled kitchen. One was a bathroom completely lined with marble, with marble bath and piped water from the well, and the other was a coal-grate open fireplace in each room, the coal imported from England. Nobody else had these things. Here surrounded by devoted nieces and nephews and their children he lived his latter years. Here he amassed what was believed to be the largest private fortune in the world. From here was held the largest funeral Philadelphia has ever seen.

In this adjoining office were planned not only honourable ways of making money but also noble ways of spending it in private and public philanthropies. His name is perpetuated in The Bank,

The Trust Company, the "Estate," in various public improvement funds, and in the world famous College for Orphan Boys.

#### THE LITTLE WOODEN HOUSE

There were many little houses just like this one in the pioneer beginnings, and many of them survived in 1776—indeed there may still be found a few dating from the seventeenth century within our city limits.

#### LOXLEY HOUSE

This charming little house was not on High Street but looked at it across three blocks of flowery meadows where the cows were pastured. A very fiery military man was the Captain Loxley who built it, but a great friend of the preacher Whitefield who often spoke from his balcony to a congregation seated on a wooded rise of ground that made a natural theatre in front of the house. Whatever other gallant deeds Captain Loxley performed he is now remembered as having been in charge of the first display of fire-works in this country. Great crowds of excited and rather scared people gathered on the banks of the Delaware and the display was made from a raft on the water. It proved to be a huge success, nobody was disappointed, which is seldom the case in a free show, and nobody was hurt. Another gallant deed of more serious import is associated with this house, though not with the name. During Howe's occupation of Philadelphia the Adjutant General of the British Army was

quartered here with his staff, and here lived Lydia Darrach, a spirited young woman not too proud to listen at doors when her country's enemies talked within. She heard a plan discussed that sent her speeding with demure face for a pass to the flour mills at Frankford, and off she set on foot, hoping she would not have to walk all the way to White-Marsh where the army was in winter quarters. Fortunately she met a staff officer who carried her news immediately to General Washington. For the sake of appearances Lydia bought a twenty-five pound bag of flour and carried it all the way home. But the trick was done and worth doing. The very next night a large force of British marched out of the city intent on a surprise attack on the Americans. Three days later they marched in again, far more tired than Lydia. They had found no army at White-Marsh.

#### THE INFIRMARY

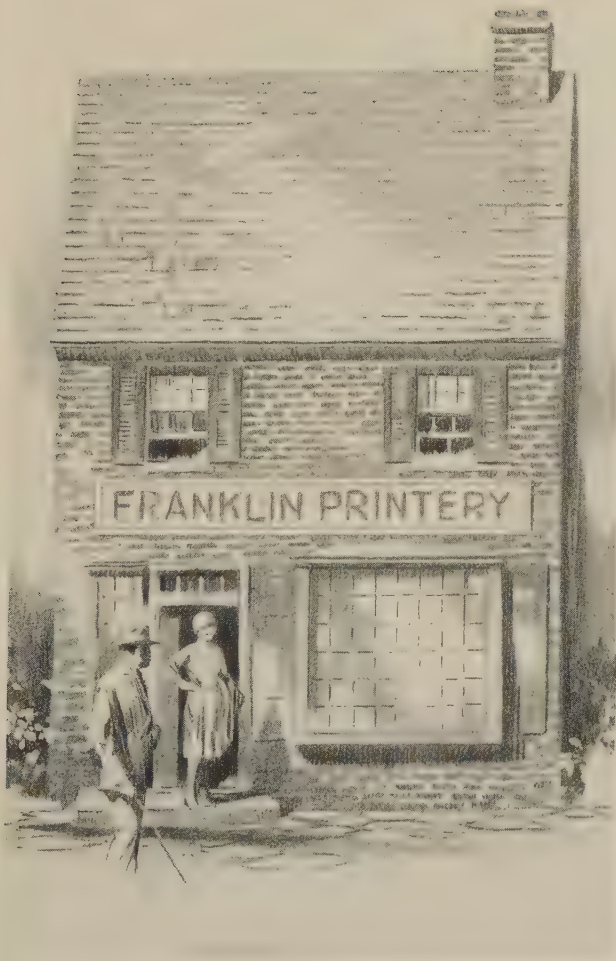
The first official city hospital for general use was established in 1750 in a double two story private house on the outskirts of the town at Fifth and High. Five years later Franklin wrote the inscription for the cornerstone of the Pennsylvania Hospital whose noble architecture is still a joy to us. But earlier than our first Philadelphia General we had established on Fisher's Island in the Delaware a Pest House, as it was merrily called in those days when a spade was every inch a spade. This was for the accommodation of arrivals by sea who were ill of

contagious diseases. Previously all the homeless sick were cared for, at the city's expense if necessary, in whatever vacant houses there were. Not a great deal was known about contagion and even in the middle of the eighteenth century sermons were preached denouncing any scientific attempt at the prevention of disease as an attitude showing distrust of the mercy of God and an attempt to circumvent His just wrath. But, as in the case of the theatre, Philadelphia in the majority disregarded the head shakers and continued her experiments in science.

#### THE SOCIETY STOREHOUSE

Everybody knows that Philadelphia was founded by Quakers and for a long time managed by them in every way, socially, politically, financially. We are probably all agreed now that we could not have had a better start but within ten years of the first Friends Meeting (1681) in a private house, of course, the very one that the Treaty Elm shaded—the Church of England members were numerous enough to feel like fighting the Quakers for first place in everything. It took them about seventy-five years to accomplish their aim by peaceful penetration and force of numbers. Meanwhile they, too, had the humble beginning of all pioneer enterprises which gave place as riches increased to more stately building. At the time we celebrate there were three large parishes within a few blocks of the State House, St. Paul's, St. Peter's and Christ Church. By 1776 there were well established in

handsome buildings Baptists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Moravians, Methodists and Roman Catholics. There was also a Synagogue, just completed, though there had been Hebrew services in a private house since 1747. Long past were the times of intolerance which, thanks to the Friends, had never been fierce in the Colony set up as a holy experiment in freedom of conscience. Soon a Catholic prelate, beloved by everybody, was to claim in a spirit of sweet mirthfulness, well understood, that he was a member of the Society of Friends. "Why not? It is a society, not a religion." Jews were represented by such men as Simon Gratz and Haym Saloman, distinguished for benevolence and learning as well as business astuteness. Saloman negotiated the money sent from Holland and France to finance the Revolution on his personal security and charged only a quarter of one per cent. for his services. The tiny wooden building here reproduced was one of the first in Philadelphia and stood for more than a hundred years on Second Street below High. It was built by representatives of the Society of Free Traders in London, those speculating gentry who took a chance on William Penn's offer of shares of land in his province. The "shares" were of 5000 acres each for £100 and the Society bought four of them which turned out to be the land now bounded by Spruce and Pine Streets between the rivers, for a century called Society Hill. In this little-more-than-hut were kept the records of their transactions and here the nine Baptists and not many more Presby-



By Permission of the Public Ledger Company

THE FRANKLIN PRINTING SHOP



terians had their first church services on alternate Sundays for over three years. When the Presbyterians built their beautiful church, Franklin took a pew in it, but he had one also in Christ Church and he liked to be considered a member of the Society of Friends. Franklin was a great joiner!

#### FRANKLIN'S PRINTING OFFICE

Only three blocks from the site of this little office is today the lineal descendant of the enterprise, still bearing its honoured name, and never having suspended business. Philadelphia has always rushed into print and has many "firsts" and "biggest" in her record in that line. Franklin, who worked in this shop from 1728 to 1741, was not our first printer, of course, but he started several things. Here he published the first monthly in the country which could scarcely have coped with its title: "The General Magazine and Historical Chronicle for all the British Plantations in America." Here in 1729 he founded "The Pennsylvania Gazette," the second weekly in the city, which was continued by his successors in this shop, Messrs. Hall and Sellers, and by their successor, Robertson, under the title "The Royal Pennsylvania Gazette." It is interesting that this title survived two years of the Revolution, the last number in May, 1778 announced "suspension of publication for a time." In its royal pages the Americans had all along been called the rebels. Until the war there had been printed in this city 435 original books and pamphlets, the

record for the country. In 1775 there were thirty-seven newspapers in the Colonies of which only eight were in favor of home rule. In 1798 there were two hundred and not a Royal sentiment among them. In the mid-eighteenth century it was quite usual to buy "a library" all at once, to last one a life-time of reading. They were ordered complete from England. Franklin originated the subscription library in 1731 with thirty-eight charter members, and a tiny room in Pewter Platter Alley to hold the books and the windsor chairs. In ten years it was incorporated as the Library Company of Philadelphia and was housed in the new State House. The thousands of free libraries in the country today are surely the democratic, or may we say socialistic, descendants of this pioneer undertaking.

#### THE VILLAGE SMITH

There were three blacksmith shops in High Street in '76. This one was built in 1750 and was a friendly, open affair accessible to small boys as well as to big horses. The smith was a handy man with iron, and often a good deal of an artist in his way, as our early locks and bolts, hinges and scrapers testify.

#### THE FIRST BRICK HOUSE

Next to the smithy is a charming little house, the first in the colony to be built of brick and it boasted also a solid stone facing. Andrew Griscom made this proud advance in 1683 and twenty-five years later the rent asked for it was "prodigious high—



FIRST BRICK HOUSE. TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS



\$350 a year." At one time it was occupied as a school and it may very well have been here that one could learn to read English for four shillings, to write it for six shillings, while for the bargain sum of eight shillings one could learn to read, write and figure. Perhaps the teacher who advertized these rates was a little weak at figuring. In 1689 the Friends established the first school under George Keith, a Scotchman. The first school to be incorporated was for young ladies, a hundred years later.

#### FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE

We end our survey of Old Philadelphia's High Street where one of her most distinguished citizens began his experience of it two hundred years ago. It was in 1723 on a July First-Day morning that young Ben Franklin, having eaten his to-be-famous roll of bread, and gazed his fill at Penn's little green town, noting wherein it differed from his own older Boston, was attracted by the open door and cool, dim interior of the Friends' Meeting House at Second and High. He tiptoed in and saw an empty bench near the door. No decorous head was turned as he sat creakingly upon it. The pious elders in front gave no sign of noticing him. Except for the mere look of it, it might have been the palace of the Sleeping Beauty. But as far as he could tell from their backs there was no Princess, and no Beauty, and therefore no reason to keep awake. Very cautiously he slid along the bench, raised his feet, lowered his head, slipped his bundle under it, and

perhaps, since he was destined to be the author of so much in and about our town, he may then and there have been the first to become conscious of that something in the atmosphere of Philadelphia that to this day gives us a reputation.

May, 1926.

## PART II





## THE STREET OF 1926

SARAH D. LOWRIE

STRANGELY enough though not one brick is left upon another of the actual houses of which this Street of houses is a reminder, the energy once generated within the walls of the original buildings has proved to be vital and superabundant, a little leaven in the beginning that has multiplied a million fold and has stood the demands of the American ideal of each generation. What was fundamental then, is fundamental now, what was begun then to supply a need, is continued now and is supplying a still greater need.

The worship of God, the love of one's neighbor, education, patriotism, free speech, a free press, political debates, the art of living, the science of the physician, the arts and crafts, the business of ex-

change, the encouragement of skilled labor, the value of the drama and the necessity of music, the power to enjoy the pleasures of society, the charm of home, the hospitality of the inn, the competition of the market and the beauty of gardens and of color and of fabrics and of design—all these were the needs of the generation that was moved by the eloquence of Patrick Henry, that enlisted under the sword of Washington, accepted the political affirmations of Jefferson and rejoiced in the wit and the wisdom of Franklin, and they are not less our needs.

No sooner were these houses of the past conjured up for the celebration of that past and placed here as symbols of what had been, than all the great ideals that inspired that past, flocked back through the open doors to keep the holiday of a glorious home week for all the nation. The hosts that are here to receive the world are National and Statewide in their interests and they have come from the four corners of America to welcome all that are like-minded across their thresholds.

The Historical sketch in this Book of the Street tells the beginning of the story of the Street, what follows is the story of the Street of To-day, the story perhaps of any Main Street and of any community that surrounds a home and is part of it.

Entering by the Town Hall, the Friends' Meeting House on the left is under the care of the Society of Friends. It is open at all daylight hours for meditation and prayer. The members of the Society with whom the Committee of the Street have had helpful

preliminary dealings are Messrs. Jenkins, Elkington and Price, and Joanna Wharton Lippincott. The following is their word on the subject:

"The Friends' Meeting House reproduces, as nearly as circumstances permit, the large House at Second and High Streets built in 1695.

"Quakers believe in the direct revelation of God's will to every seeking soul, such manifestation being attained by meditation without outward distracting influences. This accounts for the simplicity of the interior of their Meeting Houses. The raised gallery or 'facing benches' are reserved for those Friends whose spiritual attainments fit them for the responsibility of the Meeting and for the more convenient setting for the Spoken Word."

The sheds belong to an old meeting house and as such are historic. Information on Christian work, church notices and religious services may be had from those in charge of the Meeting House Office.

#### THE FIRST BRICK HOUSE AND THE DAME SCHOOL

The Dame School is sponsored by the Philadelphia Teachers' Association which is affiliated with the State and the National organizations. It includes in its membership all departments of our public school system; superintendents, supervisors, normal and training teachers, senior and junior high, vocational continuation, grade and primary school teachers, nurses and compulsory attendance officers. It was established locally in 1904 and has a membership in Philadelphia of 7200, that of the State

numbering 52,275 or 98 per cent. of the entire teaching force of Pennsylvania. It is acting as host for all the school teachers of the United States.

The interior of the house is a gift of the association and also of Snellenburg and Company whose replicas of old furniture and school fittings make it a historical reminder of the days of '76. The members of the committee who have initiated this registration headquarters for their fellow teachers are Miss Jessie Gray of the Philadelphia Normal School and Dean Carnell of the Temple University.

#### THE PAUL REVERE FORGE

This was completed by the Pennsylvania Society of New England Women, in memory of the patriot whose forge and foundry supplied the bolts, spikes pumps and copper hull of the frigate Constitution.

"The Pilgrims were possessed by their 'Soul Liberty' and love of colonization. Groups emigrating from Massachusetts founded the towns of Wethersfield and Windsor, pushing westward, for Connecticut claimed rights to the Mississippi River. Williamsport and Scranton, Montrose and the Wyoming Valley have descendants of these same Connecticut Yankees, making a special bond between Pennsylvania and New England.

"The Pennsylvania Society of New England Women was founded for philanthropy, the honoring of a worthy ancestry and to establish friendly relations among New England women in Pennsylvania.

"The motto of the Society is—

'Yes, I have a goodly heritage.' "



Courtesy of R. Bishop

THE FORGE



The quaint sign and the wood cut were designed by Richard E. Bishop, a maker of modern prints.

Mrs. C. Howard Clark is the president of the Society and Miss Searle is chairman of the committee acting as hostesses for this interesting interior, while the well known New York State firm—The Colonial Hardware Company, Myron S. Teller proprietor, furnished the tools and the forge and carries on the work of the blacksmith shop. His interest in this handicraft began in his architect's office in Kingston, New York, when he was working on the restoration of historic buildings in the vicinity. All of the exterior iron work of the houses on the Street is his work, as well as much of the interior wrought iron latches, hinges, etc. The blacksmith in charge welcomes all visitors, especially those of New England ancestry, who wish to register in the book placed in the shop for that purpose by the organization sponsoring the shop.

#### THE FRANKLIN PRINTE SHOP

The Philadelphia Public Ledger, which had furnished the Franklin Printery, is the Curtis-Martin Newspapers, Inc., in Independence Square. Cyrus H. K. Curtis is President; David E. Smiley, Editor.

This newspaper was founded in 1836 and, therefore, this year is celebrating its ninetieth anniversary. There is no attempt in the Franklin Printery to reproduce exactly any one of Benjamin Franklin's Print Shops as they existed in early Philadelphia, but only to suggest the atmosphere of the surround-

ings of this pioneer printer in one of the most important phases of his activities.

Grateful acknowledgement is made for loans of furnishings and equipment to the American Type Founders Company.

The member of the Philadelphia Public Ledger staff whose taste and knowledge has made this quaint interior a valuable note on the publishing of the past is Mr. Edward E. Croll, assistant to the Editor of the Philadelphia Sunday Ledger.

#### THE FREE SOCIETY STORE HOUSE

The National League of Women Voters grew from an idea to an activity since 1920 and are heirs to the principles of a high order of citizenship handed down to them from the pioneer suffragists. They believe with Madison that "a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives." They propose to so educate that body of newly enfranchised voters that they may feel the responsibility for good government attained by the original inhabitants of the Street when it was rightly named—High.

#### THE FIRST INFIRMARY

The National Society, United States Daughters  
of 1812

President National, Mrs. Samuel Preston Davis.

Little Rock, Arkansas.

The National Society, United States Daughters of 1812 was founded in 1892 and incorporated February 25, 1901 under a National Charter for

patriotic, historical, educational and benevolent purposes, the object of which are as follows: To perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who were identified with the War of 1812 by publication of memoirs of famous women of the United States during that period and the investigation, preservation and publication of authentic records of men in the military, naval and civil service of the United States during the same period, by making the Society one of the factors of educational patriotic progress, etc.

The National Society is divided into State Societies each having a President and sub-divided into Chapters bearing names of men or women or events connected with the history of the War of 1812. These Chapters are governed by Regents.

Signed: LOUISE HORTENSE SNOWDEN,  
*National Representative,*  
*U. S. Daughters of 1812.*

Second Vice Regent Gen. ROBERT PATTERSON,  
*Chap. State of Pennsylvania.*

#### THE LOXLEY HOUSE

The Philadelphia Federation of Women's Clubs and Allied Organizations, on entering its fourth year, bids you welcome to Loxley House on High Street. Since its organization, December 14, 1922, the Federation has considered all the big questions that should come as conference work for fifty-eight organizations and twenty thousand members. The largest women's mass meeting ever held in Philadelphia, called in the interests of law enforcement,

twenty-four hundred women registered, as well as the reception to the foreign women attending the International Council of Women's Clubs, are outstanding events. The Organization is on call for all emergency work for Federated Women's Clubs. Register with us—let us know you are here.

#### THE GIRARD HOUSE

The Foreign Relations Committee for the Women's Committee was placed in charge of Mrs. Joseph Leidy, and this house, the original of which was the centre of so generous and distinguished a hospitality under its owner Stephen Girard, is made the headquarters for foreign guests to the Sesqui for information and for registration and for a hearty welcome. The house is furnished partly after the French and partly after the acquired American tastes of Girard by Chapman and Company as a gift to emphasize the wide and varied purposes of the Street. Some of Girard's belongings are still to be seen at Girard College, which is his great gift to the orphan boys of ambition and of moderate means of the city of Philadelphia.

#### THE GIRARD COUNTING HOUSE

As the initiator of a great philanthropy Girard could well be said to have been the sponsor of all the great philanthropic trusts that have followed. The office today is a centre of information for state-wide and nation-wide associations of a modern as well as an ancient variety under the auspices of the Public Charities Association of Pennsylvania



~ Little Wooden House ~  
headquarters - American War Mothers



which is a voluntary state-wide, non-partisan, non-sectarian organization of Pennsylvania citizens. Its object is to serve as a rallying point for forward-looking citizens and organizations in developing an adequate welfare program for Pennsylvania. The Association is especially active in the fields of welfare legislation, mental hygiene and child welfare. Its program is based on the policy: "Much for Care, More for Cure, Most for Prevention."

The Association published a monthly magazine, the *P. C. A. Herald* and, during legislative sessions, a weekly bulletin entitled *Social Legislation*. The organization is supported by voluntary contributions. Duncan and Duncan are the decorators of this interior.

#### THE LITTLE WOODEN HOUSE

##### AMERICAN WAR MOTHERS

Founded September 29, 1917, National Charter granted by Act of Congress February 24, 1925.

National President, Mrs. H. H. McCluer, 3224 Highland Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

Scope of activities throughout the United States. Active Chapters in almost every state in the country.

Its object: "To keep alive and develop the spirit that prompted world service; to maintain the ties and fellowship born of that service and to assist and further any patriotic work; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation; to work for the welfare of the army and navy; to assist in any way in their power, men and

women who served and were wounded or incapacitated in the World War; to foster and promote friendship and understanding between America and the Allies of the World War."

MRS. WILLIAM H. MARSHALL,  
*National Chairman of Sesqui-Centennial  
Committee for American War Mothers.*

#### SLATE-ROOF HOUSE

This house is the headquarters for the women coming from every State in the Union to the Sesqui-Centennial.

Westing, Evans and Egmore, experts in English furnishing, have undertaken to produce the interior just as it was, so that the house will be of interest in itself aside from the events taking place there.

The Governor of each State has appointed two women to represent the women in the State on the General Committee. A State Day is being arranged by each State when the Governor and representative women in that State will present their State Flag, with fitting ceremonies.

In this house, women from all the States will register and a huge map of the United States is to be hung on the wall. Each woman visiting the House of the State Committee will place a pink- or blue- or white-headed pin in the map of her State so that the attendance from each State can be seen at a glance—and compared.

The House will be open every day to receive delegates.

The women appointed by the Governor in each State are sending in the names of four outstanding women in that State, who during the past fifty years have contributed most to the progress of women in their State, in Civics, Art, Literature or Music, together with a short outline of their achievements and an autographed photograph. This will form a Who's Who of the women of America.

Headquarters of  
The States Committee

MRS. GEORGE HORACE LORIMER,  
*Chairman.*

#### THE WASHINGTON STABLES THEATRE

This building, the larger original of which held Washington's horses and coaches and some of his servants, is now the headquarters of the Dramatic Committee of the Art Alliance of Philadelphia, and is also the ticket office and small auditorium of the Children's Theatre, the small stage being somewhat on the order of the little out-door theatre of the Luxemburg Gardens in Paris where the puppet plays are part of the children's education in the folklore classics of Europe. This theatre and all dramatic activities in the Street are under the supervision of the Art Alliance of Philadelphia. The executives of this committee who have thus coöperated to make this little building a centre for art and for enjoyment are Mr. John Shaw for the Philadelphia Traction Company; Mr. Samuel

Wetherill, Miss Clara Woodward, Mr. Charles Morgan, Mrs. Eugene Newbold and Miss Mason. The interior of the theatre was fitted up by the Philadelphia Traction Company and the pageants and dramatic events are chosen by the Art Alliance.

#### THE WASHINGTON HOUSE

This famous house is presided over by the Daughters of the American Revolution, Mrs. Alexander Patton being the National Officer acting as chairman of the committee in charge. The basic features of the interior of this house are the gift of this organization, the decorating and finishing details and the furnishing being the contribution of the Arts and Crafts Guild of Philadelphia, and such other organizations as have coöperated with them for the purpose.

The patriotic society of the D.A.R. needs no describing here, its interest and generous initiative in the care of the great land-marks of American history and its eager fostering of patriotism make its place an honored one in the country. It was the first organization to take headquarters in the Street and the award to it of the Washington House was a fitting tribute to its generous participation in this national anniversary. The Committee was also fortunate in the choice of an organization such as the Arts and Crafts Guild to carry out the plans of the architects for the interior. Miss Schick and her fellow craftsmen have had long practical experience in the art of interior decoration and are

responsible for the collecting of the many modern replicas of beautiful and classic originals by many modern craftsmen.

The Guild was started in Philadelphia in 1905 in a little downtown studio and has gradually expanded to a large and flourishing organization with headquarters in the Art Alliance. Its products are not confined to the arts and crafts of Philadelphia and its influence has been felt in many places outside of its home town. A craft shop in Pittsburgh and a centre as far west as Minnesota are indebted to it as their initiator. Many craftsmen have had their training in its studios, a whole line of activities for the mentally and physically handicapped is due to its inspiration, and it was among the first organizations for better art in little places to inaugurate the garden room aspects of city backyards.

#### THE MORRIS HOUSE

This interior is left undecorated so that it may be an exhibition room for the Garden and Farm Organizations.

#### THE GARDENS OF HIGH STREET

Philadelphia has always been noted for its gardens and was the initiator of the Garden Clubs of America. The designs and the carrying out of the designs for the gardens of the houses of the Street are due to the following organizations:

The Garden Club of Philadelphia, President, Mrs. Edward Cheston; Chairman of Committee,

Mrs. Robert Glendinning; Members, Miss Goodman, Mrs. George Willing.

The Weeders, President, Mrs. Stacy Lloyd; Chairman, Miss Louise Wood; Members, Mrs. Wistar Brown, Mrs. Isaac Roberts, Mrs. J. D. Winsor, Jr.

The Gardeners, President, Mrs. Frank Moss; Chairman, Mrs. Benjamin Bullock; Members, Mrs. Henry Jeanes, Mrs. H. J. Lloyd, Mrs. Casper Hacker.

The Four Counties, President, Mrs. J. W. Wilcox; Chairman, Mrs. Packard Baird; Members, Mrs. Frank Thomson, Mrs. Robert Page.

The Wilmington Garden Club, President, Mrs. Bancroft.

The Society of Little Gardens, President, Mrs. Charles Davis Clark; Members, Mrs. Charles Lea, Mrs. Robert Lippincott.

Engineer for construction, Robert B. Cridland, 306 South Smedley Street, Philadelphia.

Chairman of the Street Committee on Gardens of the Associated Garden Clubs, Mrs. Thomas Newhall; Vice Chairmen, Mrs. Stacy Lloyd and Mrs. Casper Hacker.

#### THE JEFFERSON HOUSE

The organization directly responsible for the hospitality of this famous lodging house of a great Virginian was called together out of a variety of national organizations to meet the needs of the present patriotic occasion. Many of the supporters

of the Jefferson Committee are Southerners by birth and up-bringing and the majority of them are politically Democrats by affiliation with Southern interests, but their coming together for the purpose of honoring Jefferson was wholeheartedly accomplished under a leader who though Southern by birth was a Philadelphian by family ties and interests, Mrs. J. Gardner Cassatt, nee Carter. The work of the committee so well initiated by Mrs. Cassatt will be carried on by her successors who are persons whose leadership in Philadelphia has been serenely accepted. This may be accounted for by the fact that Philadelphia has many of the external aspects of a Southern city, or it may account for the fact that many of the traits of Philadelphia are the traits of the old cities of the South.

The Jefferson Committee were very fortunate to have the generous coöperation in the fitting up of the interior of the house by the firm of Strawbridge and Clothier. It is a firm of Quaker ancestry and of long established weight and importance in the community. The families of the originators are noted for their love of sport and responsibility in philanthropic activities as well as being as conspicuous in the succeeding generations for business acumen as were the founders of the firm. In the present instance the care and study that the firm's officials have put on the designs for the replicas of Thomas Jefferson's furniture have only been equaled by the company's heartiness in making the whole idea of the Street appreciated far and wide among those to

whom the subject of furniture and historical periods in houses and architecture have become a new but a paramount interest.

#### THE SHIPPEN HOUSE

This is a typical city house of the American professional man of a period beginning with early Philadelphia and lasting down nearly to the present day, so far as its exterior goes. It was designed to be at once the family dwelling and the office of the head of the family. Lawyers used to have offices adjoining their homes and physicians still have offices in their homes, but the technical necessities of a modern doctor's quarters are making that less and less a possibility and the tendency of the modern family to live in apartments has made it less and less of a probability. However, in the case of this house, which is reminiscent of the office and house of Dr. William Shippen, Jr., who started the first classes in medical study out of which the great medical schools of the late eighteenth and the early nineteenth century grew and flourished, the architects designed a family dwelling that could be modernized in the interior and yet retain both, outside and in, many of the features of its original appearance.

The Good Housekeeping Studio undertook the modernizing of the interior in so practical a manner that it can well stand for the most practical treatment of this type of old city house and satisfactorily demonstrate that one can possess one's ancestral home and be modernly at home in it.

Courtesy of *Good Housekeeping Magazine*



DETAIL OF ROOM IN THE SHIP'S HOUSE



Mrs. Lawrence Bodine acting for the Good Housekeeping Studio and also in coöperation with the Good Housekeeping Institute which is installing the kitchen and laundry of the house, states the problem and its solving in the following paragraph.

“The charm of the old with the comfort of today is the corner stone upon which the Doctor Shippen house was furnished. The rooms and background remain unchanged in spirit and much of the furniture might have been in the original house, but the comforts that the generations have brought have been added. So we find easy chairs, bathrooms, and nursery, while the kitchen and laundry lack nothing that modern industry can devise in the form of serviceable equipment to add to the convenience of these rooms.

This house and especially the former offices of William Shippen M.D. are the headquarters of the chief executive of the Women's Committee of the Sesqui-Centennial, Mrs. J. Willis Martin. The Committee itself numbers some hundreds of members, one hundred of whom have been active workers in the actual administrative and executive organization of the Sesqui-Centennial celebration preparation, a preparation of which this Street is only the most obviously visible example. The Street itself, however, is the result of the coöperation of some twenty committees, most of them national in their affiliations and touching a membership of hundreds of thousands of the actively public spirited men and women of the country.

The actual organizing of this great combination of separate units was very sensibly placed in a few hands, which accounts perhaps for the lack of friction in the work and for the successful simplicity of the general effect. It is a pattern of modern life worked out in the fine old colors of the past, and the Shippen House is perhaps the most typical of the whole group of houses of the America of both yesterday and today.

#### INDIAN QUEEN INN

The Inn which is at the right of the Town Hall and which was designed by the Committee of the Street to represent not only the hospitality and friendly preparedness ready at all times for a stranger's need in the Philadelphia of a century and a half ago, but it stands now, and it did then, for the social intercourse among strangers and brief acquaintances that such a meeting place belonging to genial hosts can happily afford.

The hosts in this case are the women of that far-famed Pennsylvania committee of few rules and many works, the *Emergency Aid*.

The Emergency Aid of Pennsylvania was organized for war relief at home and abroad, soon after the outbreak of the World War. Its activities include relief to France, England, Belgium, Italy, Serbia, Montenegro, Poland, Armenia, Russia and Japan, besides emergency relief in our own country in connection with the Employment Depression in 1914-1915; Infantile Paralysis Epidemic of 1916; Influenza Epidemic of 1918, and many and various local emergencies.



INDIAN QUEEN INN AND TOWN HALL



To perpetuate for all time the spirit of service of the organization and to meet a civic need, an Emergency Aid Building is now under construction at the northeast corner of Twentieth and Sansom Streets, which will house the first Club Residence for Women in Pennsylvania, to be known as "Warburton House." The Emergency Aid, as a welfare organization, will continue to function in this building so long as emergencies are to be met.

The presiding officer of this organization is Mrs. Barclay H. Warburton and the first vice president is the chairman of the Sesqui Committee, Mrs. J. Willis Martin. The chairman in charge of the Inn committee is Mrs. Norman MacLeod, vice-chairman, Mrs. Henriques Crawford.

Through the interest and generosity of Mr. Rodman Wanamaker and the firm of John Wanamaker the interior of the Inn and the adjacent coffee house in the former stables of the Inn have been fitted to represent the past and the present of Roadside hospitality. The electrical appliances in the kitchen of the Inn and Coffee House were supplied to the Emergency Aid Society of Pennsylvania through the kind offices of the Philadelphia Electric Company, the following firms loaning equipment: The General Electric Company, Gillender and Sons, and T. W. Berger and Company.

The Street Committee feels that no more important adjunct to present day community life than this of public hospitality is to be found in the group of interests that are housed here in the Street.

## THE MARKET

This group of Stalls and the central House exhibitions were placed in the charge of the Junior League to arrange to the best advantage for the general public and those wishing to exhibit or to sell exhibits.

The Junior League of Philadelphia, an organization of young women, founded in 1911 is one of the ninety-two City Leagues which comprise the National Association of Junior Leagues of America.

The League constitutes a training course for volunteers through which the leisure of certain girls is translated into terms of service to the handicapped of their community.

In the Philadelphia League are five hundred members, each active on one of the numerous committees such as the Blind, Settlement, Hospital, Church, and the like through which the League functions. The president of the Philadelphia Junior League, in the Sesqui-Centennial Year, 1926, is Mrs. Robert McLean of Chestnut Hill.

The chairman and vice chairman of the committee of the League in charge of the Market are Mrs. Joseph Rollins and Mrs. Beauveau Borie.

In the central House of the Market two organizations have arranged exhibits especially for children.

## THE DOLL MUSEUM

The Women's Club of the Temple University has collected the famous dolls and under their presi-

dent, Mrs. Walter Hancock has arranged them for the pleasure and the profit of all children and many grown-ups. This kind and arduous piece of work is one of many which the country at large owes to this group of college alumnæ and active club women. The Temple University Club is educational, scientific and philanthropic in its general work and specifically and locally public spirited in such ways as this of the Sesqui Market. Although connected with a great church organization by personal affiliations with a remarkable leader it is non-sectarian and its membership are of many denominations. It was formed upon the suggestion of the late Reverend Dr. Russell Conwell to help further the interests of the Temple University and the education of the poor boy or girl. Scholarships are given and awarded and the student body encouraged by its friendly coöperation.

#### THE CONESTOGA WAGON

This old wagon once so useful and so common in the pioneer life of both East and West is loaned by Mr. Henry D. Paxson of Philadelphia, who is in direct line of descent from one of the first pioneer settlers of Pennsylvania in the Swedish Colony that arrived on the shores of what is now Philadelphia many years in advance of the English Quakers under William Penn.

## THE STALLS

The organizations selling goods in these stalls are some of a philanthropic origin, and some of coöperative and crafts guild variety, a few are on frankly commercial lines, but none of them is merely a business without pleasure. The stalls have somewhat the aspect of a community bazaar but there is no conspiracy, even on the part of the philanthropic ventures to enlist sympathy or to persuade buyers to help a cause. The specialties for sale are made by experts and have already a good market in competition with the wide markets of cities. Neither is the place merely addressed to souvenir hunters, although there are many things on the shelves of the little stalls that would be suitable to "take home" as presents from the Sesqui. The shops are devised to show the numberless small articles of household and personal use that are nowadays the lighter accessories of everyday life, the little luxuries which the great American prosperity has made possible for most of us to at least buy to give away, even if we are not rich enough to buy them to keep.

The idea of a market such as this is still a common practice in Europe and was in the eighteenth century a semi-yearly practice in the High Street Market House of Philadelphia. It is really the Department Store idea somewhat primitively carried out, and it is also the bazaar idea almost completely carried out. And since department stores tend to be more and

more like bazaars, a clash of interests rather than a classification, it is possible that the Market Stalls of this Market of the Sesqui Street may strike the most modern of the modern notes in the psychology of the buyer and the seller. At all events the story of each little stall would be worth the listening to if those who pass by have time to linger.

The list of those organizations who are to sell there are as follows:

These are named in order of application

Philomuseum Club	Candles
Women's Nat'l Overseas Service League and Phila. Unit	Picture puzzles
Biltmore Industries	Mountain weaving
Emergency Aid Shop	Work of prisoners
Ancient Order of Hibernians	Lace and linen
Work of the Blind	Knit goods
Philanthropic Association	Hdkfs. and bags
Seaman's Church Institute	Ship models
Women's Auxiliary of the Hahnemann Hospital	First-aid kits
Pa. Society of Shut Ins	Fancy goods
Quill Book Shop	Books, prints, desk furnishings, post- cards, maps, read- ing lamps, etc.
P. R. T.	Bus Ticket Office
Mrs. Cheney	Antiquity shop
Vincenzo	Italian ware
Mrs. Bailey	Patriotic emblems
Miss Vernon	Dolls' furniture
Miss Crow	Children's clothes
Miss Martha Crow	Party shop
Miss Bruner	Lingerie

## THE ARCHITECTS

Before the plan for the Street was talked over with any of the members of the Sesqui-Centennial Committee, the President of the Women Committee personally consulted the president of the Philadelphia Chapter of Architects and by appointment with Mr. Zanzinger met several of the architects that he had called into consultation and this little group thrashed the whole matter out from the viewpoint of its desirability and its practicality. Receiving encouragement on both these points together with a rough estimate of the possible minimum cost of the undertaking, and advice as to the architects best fitted to carry it out, Mrs. Martin took the affair up with the President of the Sesqui-Centennial Committee, Mr. Freeland Kendrick and his executive committee, with the result that the sum asked for the completion of the exterior of the Street, the land suitable for such a series of buildings and full encouragement to carry out the plans were forthcoming.

The architects chosen, Messrs. Okie, Bissell, Sinkler and Wadsworth, undertook the planning and superintendence of the building of the Street, and the eventual planning of the interiors and a general oversight of details of decorating and furnishing, with mixed feelings. They had to sacrifice stability of material and thoroughness of construction and perfection of detail—all of which they were masters of—to the necessities involved by the transitory nature

of the enterprise. They actually made plans for a million dollar building construction which had to be carried out in a limit of two months for construction and at a minimum of cost for materials. What they did not sacrifice, however, was the skill and work to make those plans careful and authoritative studies of the originals from records difficult to find and requiring experience and knowledge to follow. And in the matter of proportion, details of ornamentation, position and design they allowed neither shortness of time nor the economy of money which the circumstances required, to rob the picture which they were creating of any of its essentials. If one could imagine the miracle of a Street long hidden brought back, untouched by change, to the summer day of another century, this is the Street of the architects intention and completion.

#### DECORATORS

The following firms, national in their reputation, have placed their services, knowledge and valuable equipment at the service of the Street Committee, making the interiors of the Houses, as nearly as possible, replicas of the originals. They were asked to make replicas rather than place originals in the houses, because it is the desire of those interested in the public's enjoyment of the Street, that that public may use the knowledge gained by seeing these rooms in a widespread way for future choices on their own account. It is not the expensiveness of the furniture

and decorating that has counted with either the Committee or those experts who have done the work, it is the charm of the good taste of the past generation which has been recaptured at least in part for the benefit of the present generation.

Washington House—Decorated by the Arts and Crafts Society of Penna. and allied firms.

Jefferson House—Decorated by Strawbridge and Clothier, Philadelphia.

Shippen House—Decorations and furnishings planned by Good Housekeeping Studio and carried out by other firms under their supervision.

Indian Queen and Coffee House—Decorated by John Wanamaker.

Loxley House—Decorated by Gimbel and Company.

Girard House—Decorated by Chapman and Company.

Slate Roof House—Decorated by Westing, Evans and Egmore.

First Brick House—Decorated by Snellenburg.

Quaker Meeting House—Interior arrangements by Walter Price, Architect.

Blacksmith Shop—Fitted up by Myron S. Teller.

Washington Stables—P. R. T. Company.

Franklin Printery—Public Ledger Company.

Inn Kitchen—General Electric Company.

Girard Counting House—Duncan and Duncan.

#### LIST OF LOANS OTHER THAN FURNITURE

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Paxson—A Conestoga Wagon.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Paxson—Bakery Utensils.

Mr. A. B. Mifflin—Old Slate for Roof.

The Girard Trust Company—Desk from Girard's Counting House.

Through Mrs. Walter Hancock—Dolls for the Museum.

## HIGH STREET

## STREET COMMITTEE

MRS. J. WILLIS MARTIN  
President of the Woman's Committee of the  
Sesqui-Centennial Committee

Organizing Committee  
MRS. J. WILLIS MARTIN, MISS SARAH D. LOWRIE

Chairman of Maintenance Committee  
MRS. HENRIQUES CRAWFORD

Chairman of Garden Committee  
MRS. THOMAS NEWHALL

Chairman of Market Committee  
MRS. JOSEPH RICKER ROLLINS

Chairman of Interior Decoration Committee  
MRS. WHARTON SINKLER

Chairman of Book of the Street  
MRS. SEYMOUR DEWITT LUDLUM

Chairman of Pageants and Dramatic Events  
(Art Alliance)  
MISS CLARA WOODWARD

Committee on Religion and Meeting House  
MR. CHAS. JENKINS, MR. HOWARD ELKINGTON,  
MRS. BERTRAM LIPPINCOTT

Chairman of Inn and Cafeteria  
MRS. NORMAN MACLEOD

Chairman of Foreign Relations Committee  
MRS. JOSEPH LEIDY (Girard House)

Chairman of States' Delegates  
MRS. GEORGE HORACE LORIMER (Slate Roof House)

Office Secretary of the Street  
MISS MCCULLOUGH

Treasurer of the Street Committee  
MRS. CHARLES STARR

ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED IN THE STREET HOUSES

- Society of Friends  
MR. HOWARD ELKINGTON
- Teachers' Association  
MISS JESSIE GRAY
- Public Ledger Publishing Company  
MR. EDWARD CROLL
- Pennsylvania Society of New England Women  
MISS SEARLE
- Blacksmith  
MR. MYRON S. TELLER
- National League of Women Voters  
MRS. BOYD NIXON
- Daughters of 1812  
MISS LOUISE SNOWDEN
- Philadelphia Federation of Women's Clubs  
MRS. M. GRAHAM TULL
- Pennsylvania Society of Associated Charities  
MR. JOHN BEDINGER
- War Mothers  
MRS. WM. H. MARSHALL
- Historical Bus Tours—P. R. T.  
MR. J. N. SHAW
- Daughters of the American Revolution  
MRS. ALEX. E. PATTON
- Farm and Garden Association and Gardens Association  
MRS. J. WILLIS MARTIN
- Jefferson Committee  
MRS. J. GARDNER CASSATT
- The Women's Committee of the Sesqui  
MRS. J. WILLIS MARTIN
- The Art Alliance  
MISS CLARA WOODWARD
- The Emergency Aid of Pennsylvania  
MRS. NORMAN MACLEOD
- Temple University Woman's Club  
MRS. WALTER HANCOCK
- Committees of the Sesqui-Centennial

## FINAL WORD

If this book of the Street were like most compendiums of information it could afford to stop with the last description of the last house on the row and the last organization in the last house and the last chairman of the last committee of that organization. But it is more than a guide book to a Street or a report of a committee's activities or even a history of the past or the record of the present. Its very contents as they are spread out for final compilation are a prophecy of the future, written so plainly that he who runs may read.

It is a future where the community is bound to count for more and more, where certain perquisites, once luxuries will soon be taken for granted as necessities, where inherited and family advantages will be discounted to an even greater degree than they are today, and where a similarity of tastes will constitute social ties rather than a similarity of traditions. At the rate that the Quaker idea of worship and of brotherly love, of fellowship and of responsible benevolence has prevailed since the Meeting House by the Town Hall was first built, it is plain that that spiritual yeast is spreading and gathering new life generation by generation and has not yet lost power to leaven the whole lump.

Perhaps the difference between the stage coaches which used to make their start bi-weekly from the Indian Queen bound for New York or for Lancaster and the West, or for Baltimore and the South, and the motor buses which now travel those same roads bound for those same cities is typical of the change of our rate of living, moving, feeling and thinking. And we have not yet come to end of that—changing.

Even the old idea of heaven's eternal bliss has dropped out of the program of the hereafter. It is not any longer an ideal of complete repose or even of completed perfection that we move towards as our goal, it is more abundant life.

And standing on the threshold of the Street of today and looking back across the thresholds of the Street of yesterday that gift is after all what we find that we already possess, at least to a degree that is highly significant—more abundant life.

Our goodly heritage as Americans does not consist in our material possessions. Our birthright from the great Americans that have preceded us is found in qualities common to us all and not to be computed in terms of money—a fearlessness of the untried, a belief in man's ability to govern himself, and an enthusiasm for adventure. Our forefathers were pioneers: should we lose their spirit we would have ceased to inherit their mastery of circumstances

and their scorn of hardship. The business of Americans in the world of today, in spite of our prosperity remains the same, to blaze a trail which others may follow in security.

THE END

